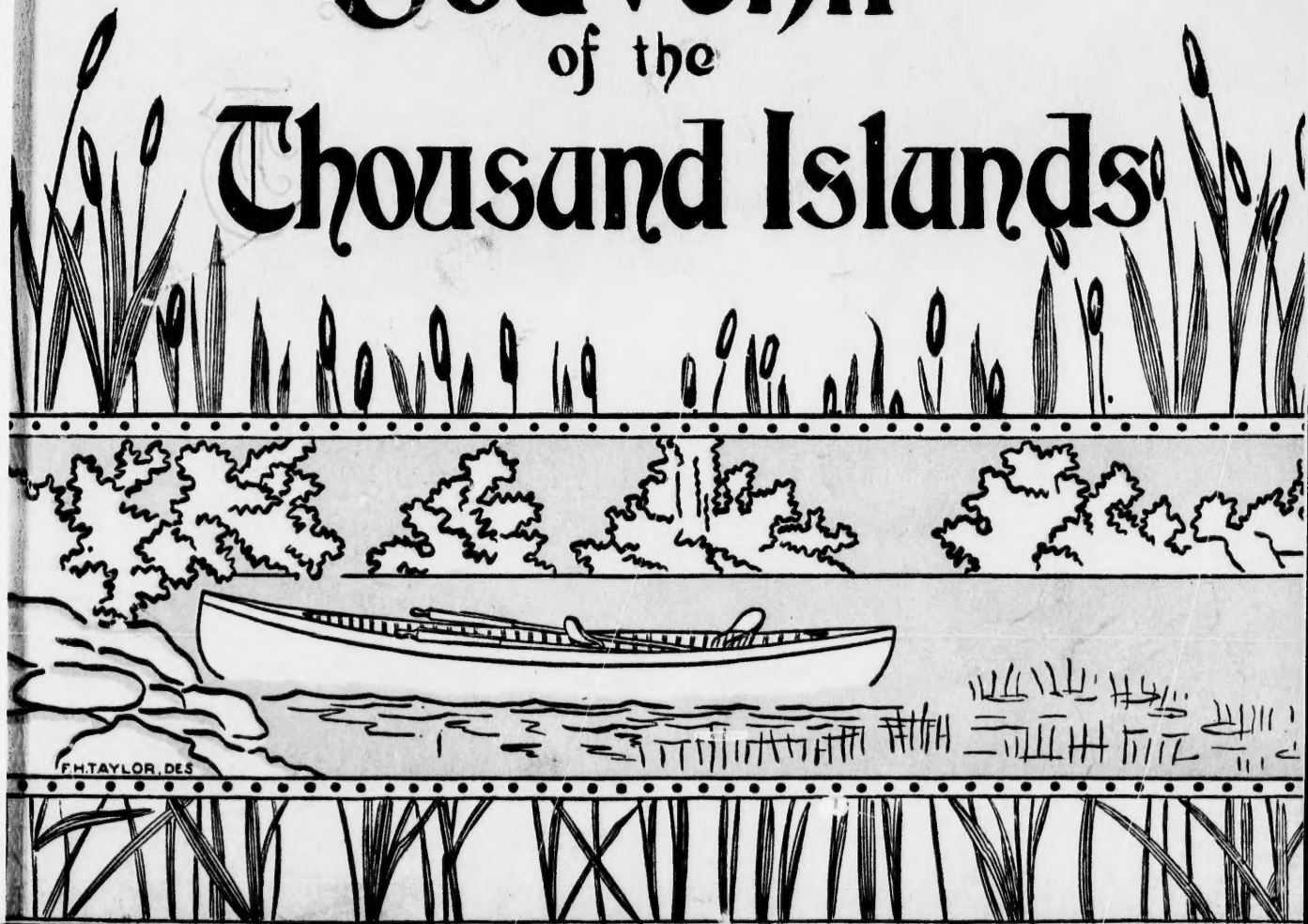




F.M.T.A.



Souvenir of the Thousand Islands

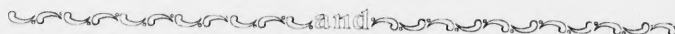




SOUVENIR
of the



THOUSAND ISLANDS



RIVER ST. LAWRENCE

COMPRISING a short history of the survey and division of the Islands between Canada and the United States: the transfer of the Islands from the government to individual owners: their popularity as a national resort: the protection and propagation of game fish, fishing, hunting, etc.

Over One Hundred beautiful illustrations of Island, Cottage, Hotel and Steamboat Scenery.

Published by

The James Bayne
Company,

Grand Rapids, Michigan.



Publishers of Souvenirs of

NIAGARA FALLS, QUEBEC,
THE SAGUENAY RIVER,
LAKE ST. JOHNS,
THE ADIRONDACKS,
AND A COMPLETE PANORAMA
FROM NIAGARA TO THE SEA.

1900
(87)



NOT many years ago the Thousand Islands, like the Adirondacks, were not considered of much value, except as a great hunting and fishing ground. It did not require in those days as it does now an expert with one of Skinner's finest made gold or silver spoons attached to an oiled silk line, a scientifically made bamboo rod with gold and silver mountings, an automatic reel with click, drag and clutch, experienced oarsman with cedar or mahogany boat beautifully finished in natural wood, fitted with upholstered chairs, to insure a good catch of fish; or a high-priced, laminated steel, hammerless, breach-loading gun, with the latest improved paper shells, loaded with smokeless powder and chilled shot, to insure you all the wild ducks you could take care of. Any youth with a lumberman's chalk line, the bowl of his mother's spoon with rough hook soldered to one end, the line with a crude swivel attached to the other, a boat made of three rough boards, one for the bottom and one for each side, the seams filled with pitch to keep the water out, two short rough boards, nailed across the top for seats, oars hewn out with an axe and finished with a draw shave, a wooden pin nailed to the side of the crude boat for oar-locks, could go out and in a few hours catch more fish than he could carry home; or if it was ducks he was after, he could take the same boat, an old discarded army musket loaded from the muzzle with powder and shot, a piece of paper, or perhaps dry leaves for wadding. Quietly land upon one side of a small island, stealthily crawl to the other and be almost positive of a good shot. Repeat the operation at some other island until you had ducks to your hearts content. The writer is speaking from actual experience.

In 1822 a boundary line and division of the island was agreed upon between the United States and the Canadian authorities. The line runs in a zigzag course, to avoid crossing any of the islands, so there is not an island owned in common by Canada and the United States. The intention of the Commission was to make as equitable a division as possible. In 1823 the United States sold her entire group from the head of Grindstone Island to Morristown to Elisha Camp for a small consideration. Mr. Camp subsequently divided them up and sold them again either in groups or singly. Some of them were allowed to be sold again for taxes. Thus they continue to change ownership down to about 1845, when Mr. Azariah Walton became the owner of a large per cent. of them. About this time the attention of a few sportsmen and lovers of the beautiful in nature was attracted to the islands. In 1846 the Rev. Geo. Bethune commenced spending his summers at the islands and much credit is due him for bringing their rare beauties to the attention of the public.

In 1853, Andrew Cornwall became associated in business with Mr. Walton and became part owner of

the islands. They conceived the idea of making the island a great summer resort and began selling them at a nominal price, stipulating that a cottage of some kind should be built within three years. Mr. Seth Green of "Fish Culture" fame and Geo. M. Pullman, the Palace Car magnate were among the first purchasers to erect cottages. The demand for islands was limited and the advance in price was very slow until 1872 when Mr. Pullman invited Generals Grant and Sherman, their families, and a few friends to spend a week among the islands and be his guests. The invitation was accepted and in July of the same year a small pleasure craft (a rare sight at that time) was seen steaming down the river. It landed at the Pullman cottage where elaborate preparations were made to receive the honored guests. The walk from the landing was covered with carpet, the island and cottage gaily decorated with bunting. Joy and gaiety seemed to take possession of every thing. They were landed under great demonstrations of enthusiasm and loyalty. The crowd of newspaper correspondents that followed heralded abroad every movement of the Presidential party, every trip among the islands, every fish caught and every place they stopped for lunch. The news was eagerly sought and read. Soon the river was dotted with boats both large and small of every form and variety. The islands and main shore swarmed with all classes of people from every part of the country; public receptions were given by both Grant and Sherman, and from that time there was a great demand for islands. The price went up until now you could not buy for \$10,000.00 what was sold previously for \$100.00. The old cottage where Grant was entertained has disappeared and in its place appears upon a more conspicuous part of the island the palatial "Castle Rest."

In 1873 two large Hotels were built at Alexandria Bay, the new Crossmon House and the Thousand Island House. This created a rivalry between the two proprietors; they vied with each other in securing guests, both advertising extensively. This added to the boom started in 1872, caused tourists and pleasure seekers to flock in by the tens of thousands. The demand for islands increased, until at present there are but very few desirable ones to be had on the American side. The river from above Clayton to Morristown is dotted with cottages, many of them costing several hundred thousand dollars and some of them bordering upon the millions. (It is folly to attempt a description of this beautiful spot: it must be seen to be appreciated.) Up to this time the Canadian Government had refused to sell their islands for private tenure, preferring to preserve them in their natural beauty until seeing the advantage accruing to the Americans by their improvement, they placed a large number of their "Emerald Gems" upon the market, wisely reserving some of the most suitable for a public park. The Americans not wishing to be outdone by their Canadian cousins, immediately appointed a commission to select and purchase the most desirable points for

the same purpose. The result is, we now have International Parks extending from Cape Vincent to Ogdensburg on the American side and from Kingston to Prescott on the Canadian side in close proximity to each other with substantial docks, tables, seats and other conveniences, where picnic and fishing parties can land their boats, prepare and serve their meals without fear of molestation. Each of these points have large signs erected reading "State Land" so that a stranger cannot make a mistake in landing.

Until the last few years there was no limit to the number or size of bass you were allowed to catch in one day. There was no restriction on net fishing or spearing; the supply of fish was considered inexhaustable. As methods of destroying the fish increased it was feared the waters might be depleted. The Anglers Association was formed for the purpose of protecting and propagating game fish. It was composed of some of the most influential men in the State of New York. The legislature was asked to enforce old disregarded laws and enact new ones for the regulation and restriction of net fishing. Immediately sprang up a feud between this association and the net fishermen, who had long followed net fishing as a vocation, drawing their destructive nets unrestrained over every sandy beach and spawning bed from the Niagara River to the Rapids of the St. Lawrence reaping a rich harvest from the myriads of fish they were annually destroying. The fight was carried to Albany where there was a great deal of political wire pulling on both sides. The Anglers prevailed and immediately sent out their spies and agents. Nets and seines were taken out of the water, dried and burned in public places. Canada took up the fight and carried it to Ottawa. An international agreement was entered into for the regulation of net fishing. The whole Island system was set apart as a great International Park and fishing preserve. The State has established great fish hatcheries where millions of bass and muskallonge fry are hatched and annually deposited in favorable places along the river, which will at no distant day afford unbounded pleasure to the disciples of "Isaac Walton."

The islands vary in size from a point of rock projecting above the surface of the water, making a resting place only for the sea gulls and wild ducks, to extensive farming districts crowned with rich harvest, lofty trees, luxuriant foliage or decorated with neat cottages varying in color and architectural design, kept bright and attractive by a new coat of paint each year. The number varies according to the height of the water, some of them being so low and flat that in high water they are completely submerged, others towering in many places almost perpendicular for hundreds of feet above high water mark. The writer has been informed by one of the Government Surveyors that at no time is the number of islands less than three thousand. There is one peculiarity of the St. Lawrence river, heavy rains never effect the height of water or swiftness of the current, the extreme variation never exceeding two or three feet.



THE CITY OF KINGSTON.

A quaint old city of about 20,000 inhabitants, built almost entirely of solid lime stone. The strongest fortified city west of Quebec. Noted for its educational advantages. Its Military College makes it the 'West Point' of Canada. The Queens University, Royal Medical College, School of Art and Science, School of Mining, Kingston Business College, Kingston Female College, together with two or three convents and several smaller institutions of learning gives it its reputation in that line. It is beautifully situated at the foot of Lake navigation, at the head of the Thousand Islands and River St. Lawrence. It is the western terminus of Rideau River and System of Canals, that connects it with Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion of Canada. Kingston carries on quite an extensive industry in ship building, has an extensive grain trade. The grain is brought in lake vessels from the west, transferred to barges and river boats for conveyance to Montreal, while they in turn transfer their cargoes brought from Montreal, to the lake boats for the west. The general appearance of the city is that of solidity. The amount of limestone used in its construction gives it the name of "Limestone City." Here is located the Provincial Penitentiary and extensive asylums. The above picture is taken from Fort Henry, looking west out upon the great lake on the left, showing some of the Martello Towers, the Military College, the harbor and the city in the distance.



COFFAGE OF W. O. WYKOFF, OF SYRACUSE, ON THE HEAD OF CARLTON ISLAND.

There is no place on the River that has excited more curiosity in the minds of the travelers than the old chimneys upon the head of Carlton Island. At one time this was a very important Military Station and has the appearance of having been very strongly fortified, but by whom and when the Fort was built is a matter of dispute and has caused the writing of many volumes, both pro and con, some claiming it was built by the French and others by the English. Be that as it may, the fact remains the Fort stood there and has been all destroyed except the great stone chimneys that still remain to remind you of the ruins of an ancient castle. A few years ago when all travel to the island came by the way of Cape Vincent, the first thing to attract the attention of the traveller, was the cluster of Chimneys in the distance. There are now several cottages located on the point, of which Mr. Wykoff's is the most important.



WHISKEY
OR
SENTINEL
ISLAND.

In the
center of
the inside
channel,
near
Fort Henry



KINGSTON HARBOR AND KINGSTON IN THE DISTANCE FROM THE MILITARY COLLEGE.



DEPOT AT CLAYTON

Clayton is the Thousand Island Terminus of the New York Central Railway and the Metropolis of the Thousand Islands. It is the distributing point for all Island supplies, has two National Banks, three good hotels, several first-class boarding houses, four churches, three telegraph offices, a good fire department, express offices, etc. A new system of sewerage and water works has just been completed, so that the sanitary conditions are unsurpassed. Modern equipped trains are run solid from all parts of the country over the New York Central tracks. Steamers arrive and depart from all Island points, at least every half hour. There is no better fishing to be found on the river than at Clayton.



THE IZVAK WALTON HOUSE.

Is located on the principal business street of Clayton, N. Y., directly opposite the steamboat landing. The front windows look out upon the River in plain view of all steamers passing up and down the river and between all island points. The Walton House is one of the oldest hotels in Clayton and the oldest and has been under the management of the same family for several generations and has acquired an enviable reputation.



THE HUBBARD HOUSE.

The Hubbard House, Clayton, N. Y., is one of the most popular, best conducted and home like hotels on the River. It has had a long and progressive career, has passed through two general conflagrations of the town and each time came out very much enlarged and improved. In connection with the house is a fine farm from which the table is supplied with fresh vegetables, milk, butter and eggs. The hotel has been under the management of the Hubbard family for many years. Mrs. E. M. Hubbard, the present proprietress, came to Clayton a mere girl, the wife of J. T. Hubbard. They together built up a reputation that any hotel manager might be proud of. After the death of Mr. Hubbard, Mrs. Hubbard took charge and what she has accomplished can be judged best by the annual increase in the number of guests and the prolonged time for which they engage their rooms.



A CAMPING PARTY AT PROSPECT PARK, JUST ACROSS THE BAY FROM CLAYTON.



COTTAGE OF C. G. EMERY, OF NEW YORK CITY. LOCATED ON CALUMET ISLAND, OPPOSITE CLAYTON.



GANAMCOQUE INN.

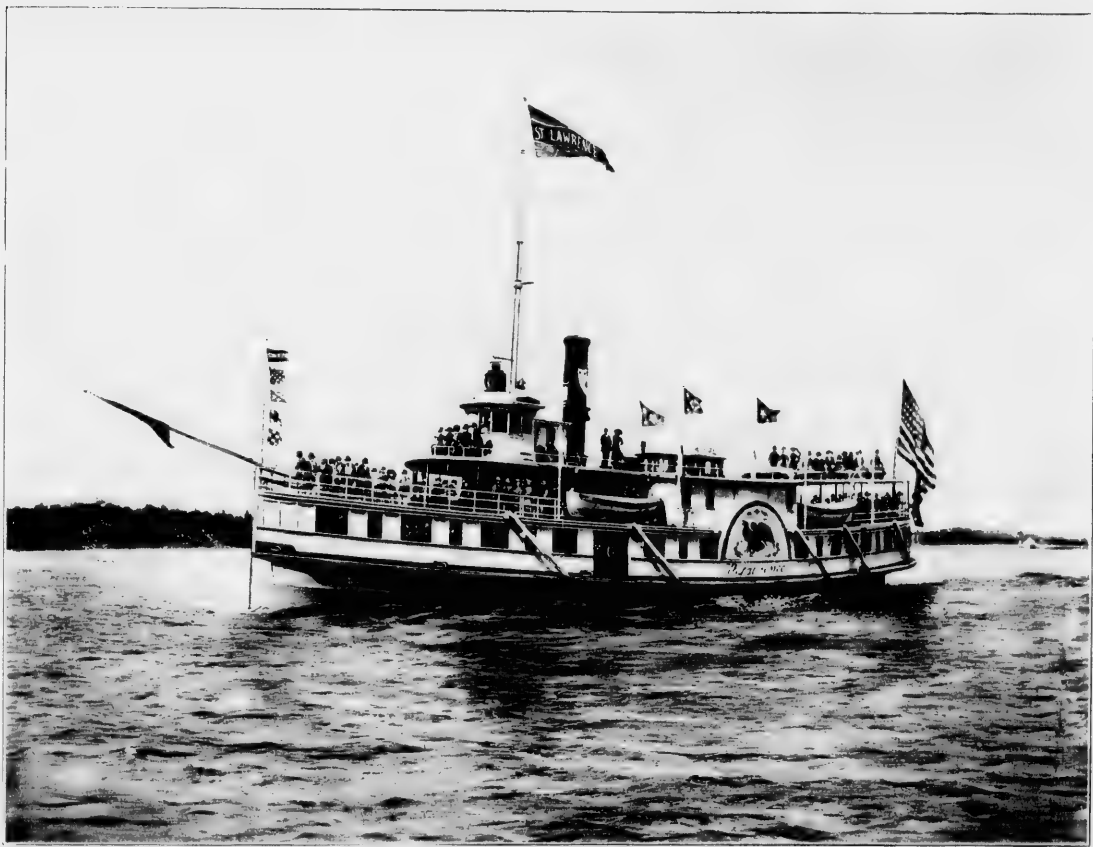
A first-class summer hotel with all the modern improvements and sanitary advantages. The fishing is unsurpassed and within a stones throw of the Inn. The golf grounds can be reached by a walk of five minutes.



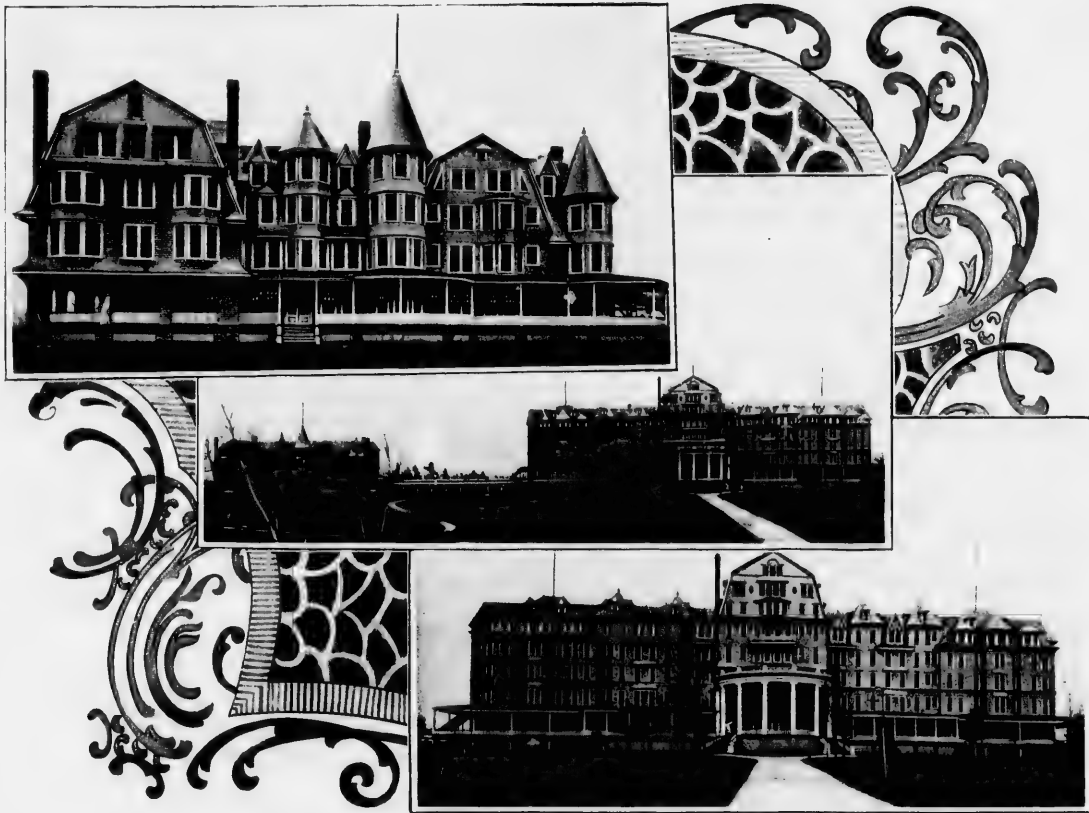
BIG JOHN CANADA, THE INDIAN PILOT WHO CONDUCTS THE AMERICAN STEAMER DOWN THE LACHINE RAPIDS.



BAPTISTE TAIKIAKE, THE ORIGINAL INDIAN WHO FIRST PILOTTED A RICHELIEU STEAMER DOWN THE LACHINE RAPIDS.



STEAMER ST. LAWRENCE.
A very fast and popular boat of the Folger Line.



THE NEW FRONTENAC HOTEL AND ANNEX, ROUND ISLAND.

Has no superior on the St. Lawrence River and we doubt if it has at any other resort. Money was not considered in its construction and equipment. The sole object of the proprietors was to make it first-class in every particular and equal to anything of the kind on the continent. How well they have succeeded the guests must be the judges. Our illustration does not do justice to the hotel, still it is the best we could do with the copy obtainable. The proprietors made arrangements with one of the best photographers in the country to do their photographing and promised us a set. When the photographs were finished it was found they were copyrighted and the artist refused us the privilege of reproducing, when it was too late to obtain anything but photographs made out of season, by amateurs, when the place was in very bad condition.



THE NEW ISLAND WANDERER ON HER FAMOUS "FIFTY SHILL" RAMBLE."

The most enchanting trip among the islands.

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Photo by Geo. Lanson.

COLUMBIAN HOTEL, THOUSAND ISLAND PARK.

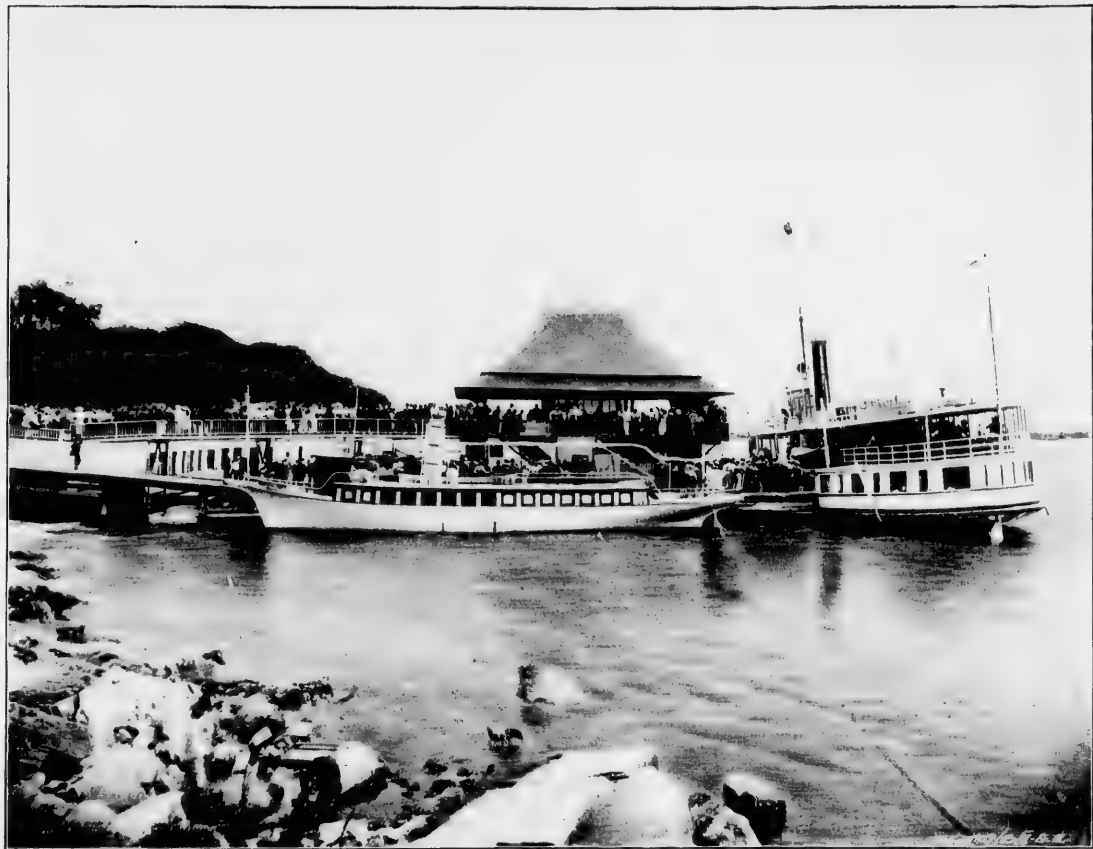


Photo by Geo. Lamson.

THOUSAND ISLAND PARK DOCK.

Originally opened for a Methodist camp meeting ground; afterwards changed to a place of moral training. The hotel is strictly temperance. Boats are not allowed to arrive at or depart from the dock on Sunday. It also offers advantages for educational purposes.

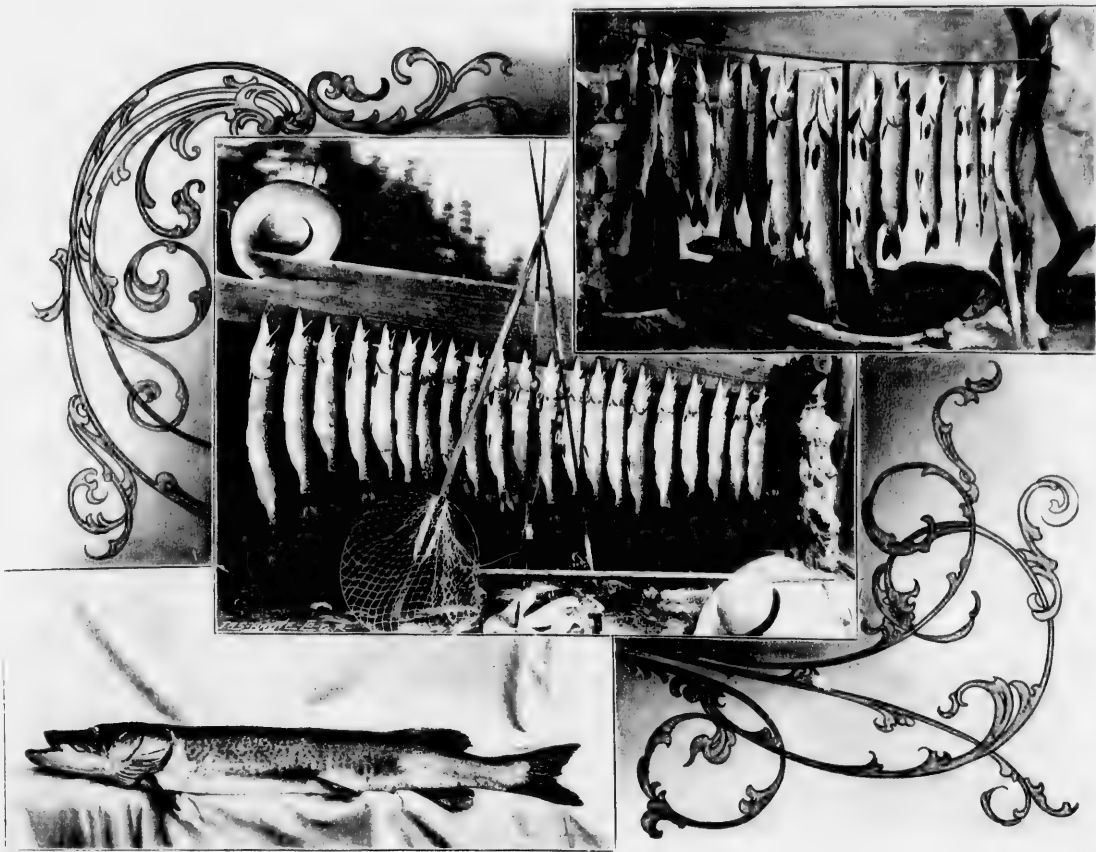


Photo by L. L. L.

RESULTS OF FISHING PARTIES AT THOUSAND ISLAND PARK.



Photo by Geo. Lunson

VIEW FROM TOWER OF COLUMBIAN HOTEL LOOKING EAST.



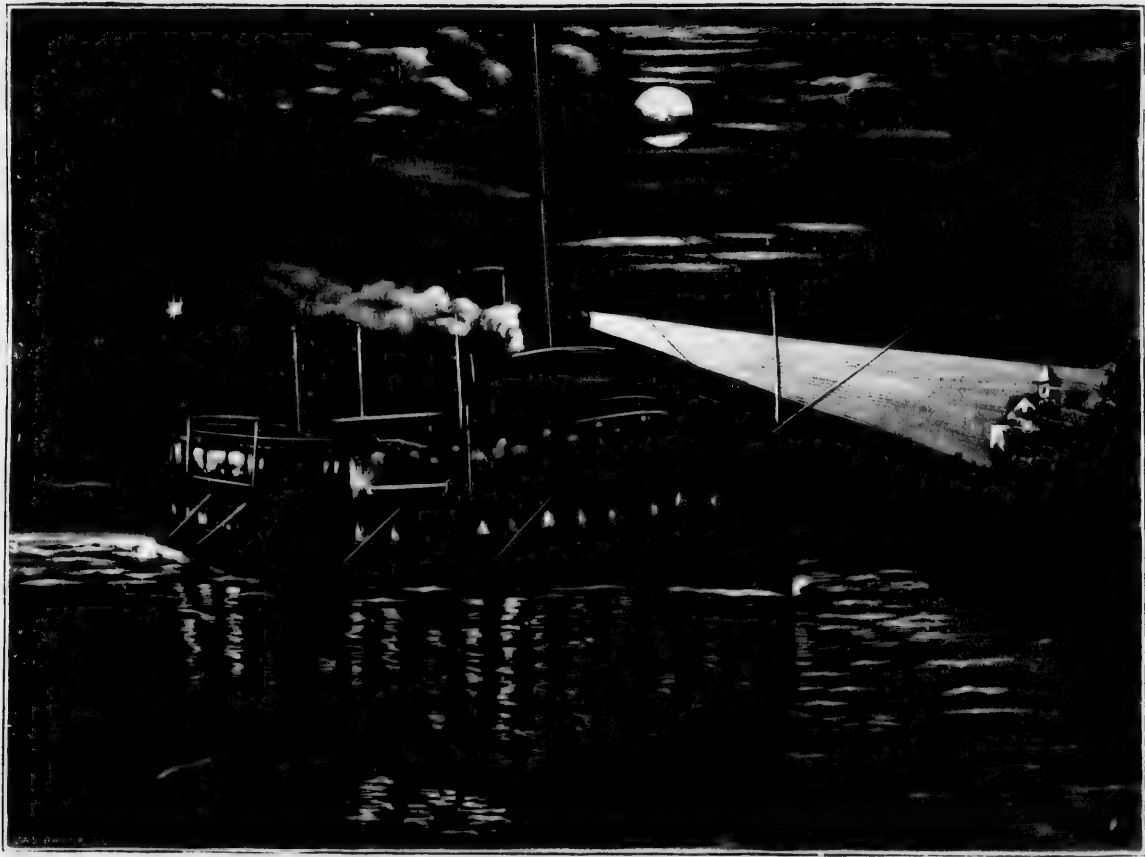
ANOTHER VIEW IN THE "LOST CHANNEL."

The capacity of this book might be taxed with attractive subjects in this bewildering channel, but we must refrain.

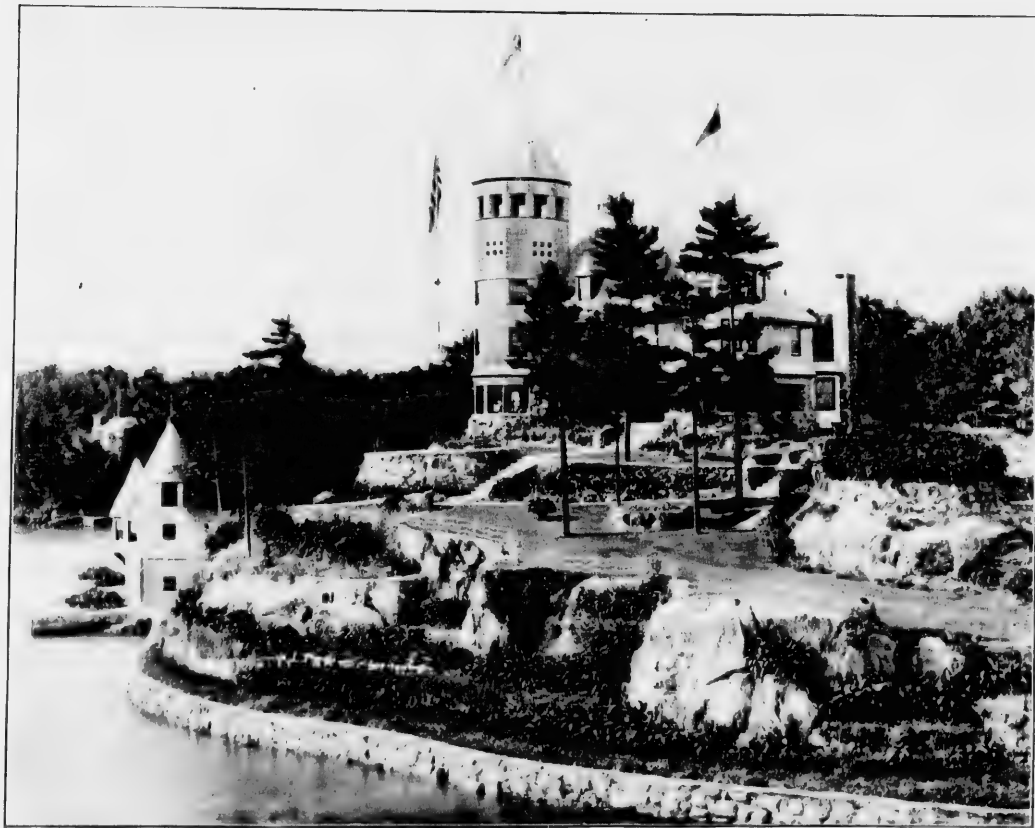


HEART ISLAND,

Cottage and Boat House of George C. Boldt, proprietor of Waldorf-Astoria, New York City



STEAMER ST. LAWRENCE ON HER SEARCHLIGHT EXCURSION AMONG THE ISLANDS



HOPWELL HALL. W. C. BROWNING, NEW YORK.



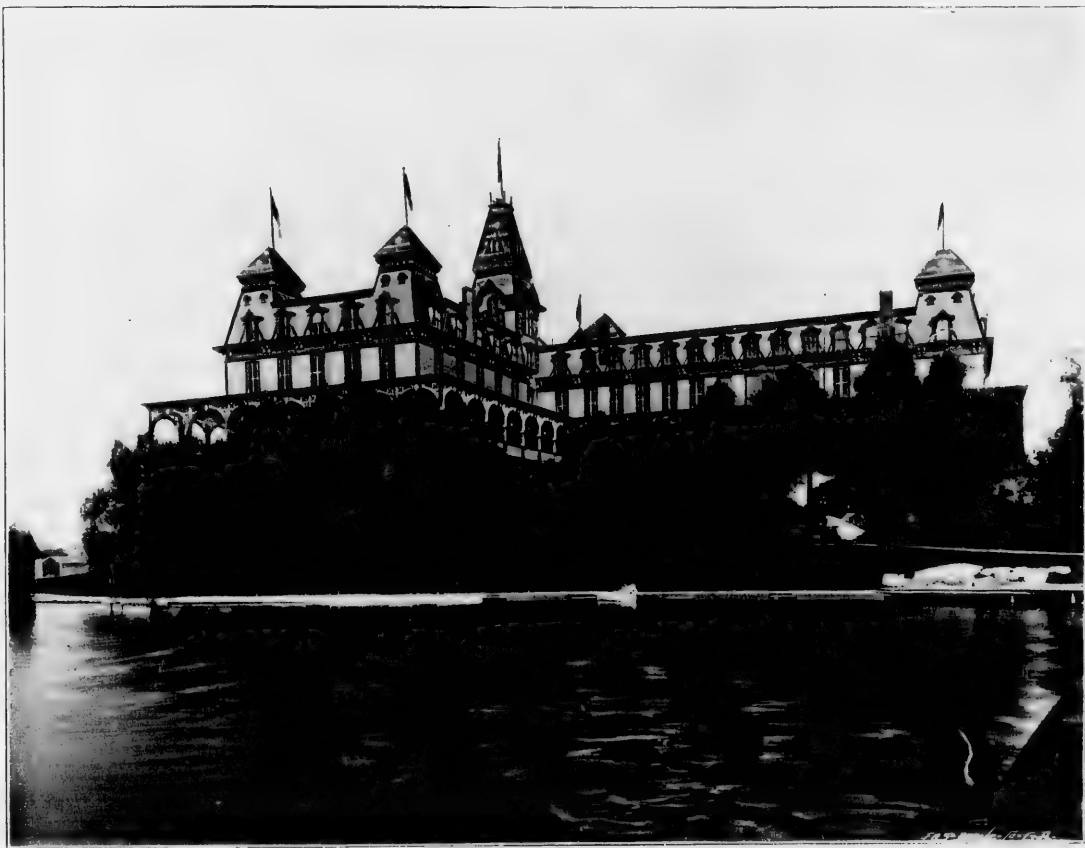
THOUSAND ISLAND HOUSE, ALEXANDRIA BAY.



SWIFT WATER POINT.



EDGEWOOD PARK.



CROSSIN HOUSE, ALEXANDRIA BAY



CROSSFISH HOUSE BURROS.

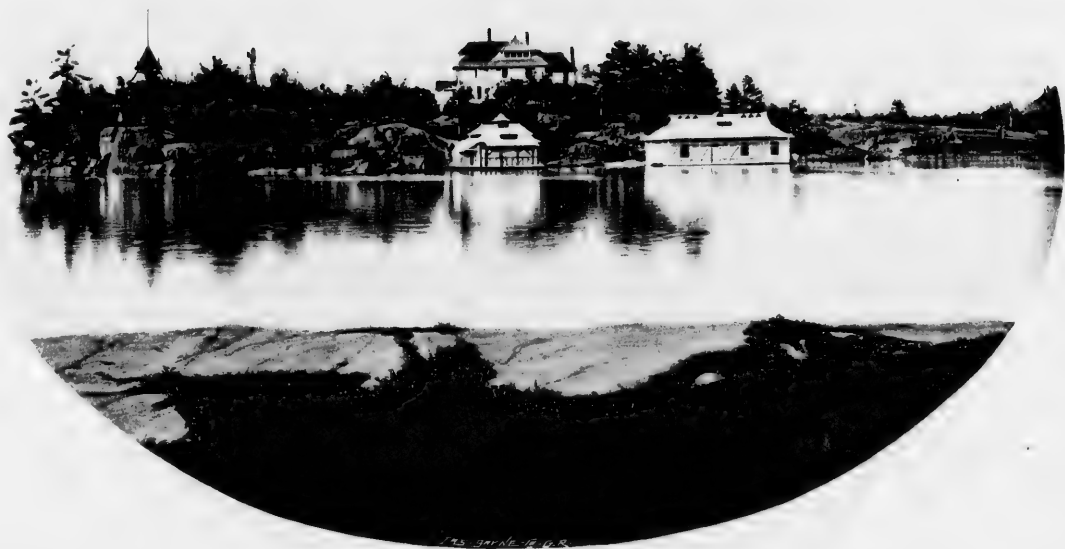


THOUSAND ISLAND CLUB HOUSE.



ALEXANDRIA BAY.

"The Fairy Island of the St. Lawrence River", is situated in the midst of the Thousand Islands. Here is located some of the finest islands of the entire group, nearly all of which have been taken and improved by some of the wealthiest and best men in the country. Expensive cottages have been built, the grounds laid out in beautiful beds of flowers and foliage plants, walls built along the shores and dotted with electric lights of all colors, electric designs consisting of harps, stars, crescents, hearts, flags, anchors, a hull rigged yacht, the occupants name in full or his initials and in many instances the name of the island, house or park. From the hotel veranda is seen the mirror-like surface of the water multiplying and reflecting the lights on the shore like jewels in a royal diadem, giving the appearance of Fairyland and reminding you of the story of the Arabian Knights. Behind you, the gaily illuminated hotel swarms with fashionably dressed and richly jeweled guests passing too and fro exchanging ideas regarding the pleasures of the day and the prospects for tomorrow, discussing the success of their various fishing trips and the physical benefits of the exhilarating atmosphere. The melodious strains of a superior orchestra float out upon the air through the open windows of a brilliantly illuminated and densely crowded ball-room. The silent pleasure yacht glides through the placid water with its merry passengers serenading each other with harp and song, occasionally displaying colored fire. Large excursion steamers are continually arriving and departing, loading and unloading their merry cargoes. Then comes the Steamer St. Lawrence on her return from the Search Light Excursion with her powerful focusing electric light shedding its rays over the tops of the Island foliage, lighting up the Eastern horizon, streaming over the North and West like the Aurora Borealis of the Arctic Region, or concentrating upon some belated yacht on its way home from a day's fishing, a cruising party returning from an evening call upon some friendly cottage, or exposing some spoony lovers swinging in their hammock, then flashing its rays more intense than the noon day sun, through the window of some cottages causing the occupants to interpose their fans, a book or a news paper to protect their eyes from the blinding rays, again flashing heavenward bewildering some sea fowl in its flight and causing it to reel like a drunken man. These with many other attractions make Alexandria Bay of all resorts the most sought after.



BONNIE CASTLE.

Summer Residence of J. G. Holland, the great author.

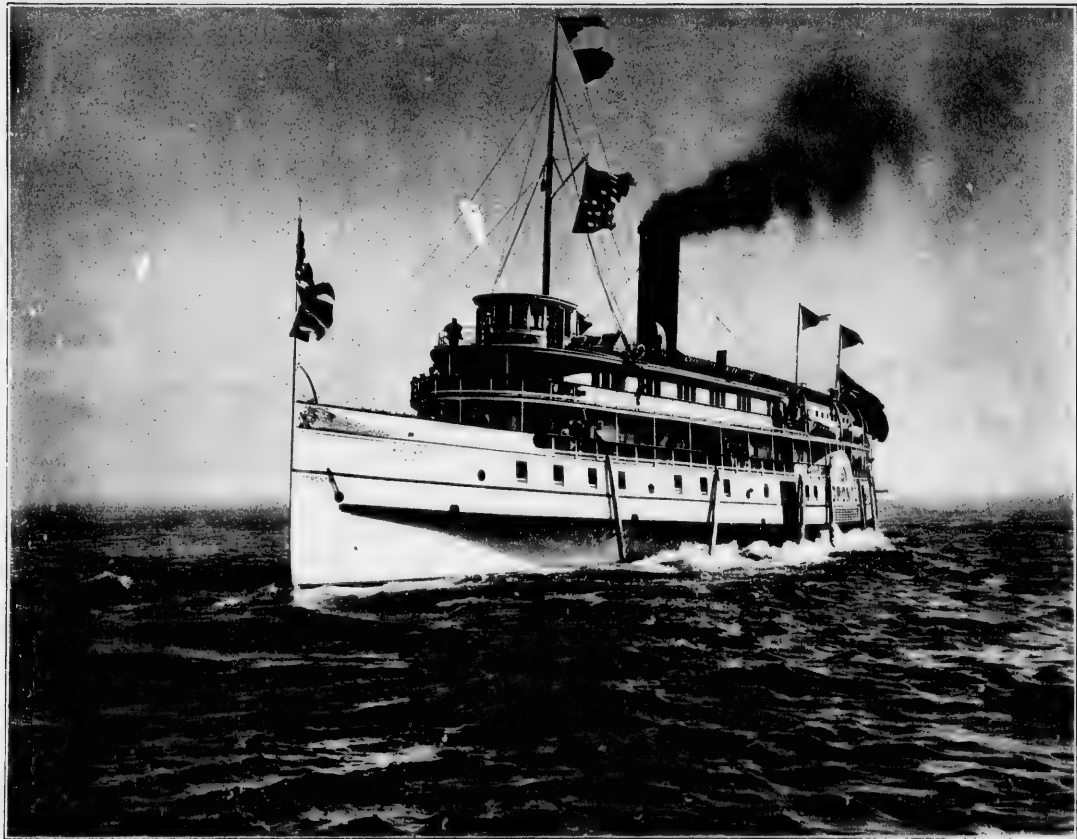
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A VIEW FROM SMOKE ISLAND IN CANADIAN CHANNEL, ON THE 50-MILE TRIP OF NEW ISLAND WANDERER.
By looking in different directions forty-one islands can be counted from this point.



COTTAGE OF J. W. JACKSON, PLAINFIELD, N. J.

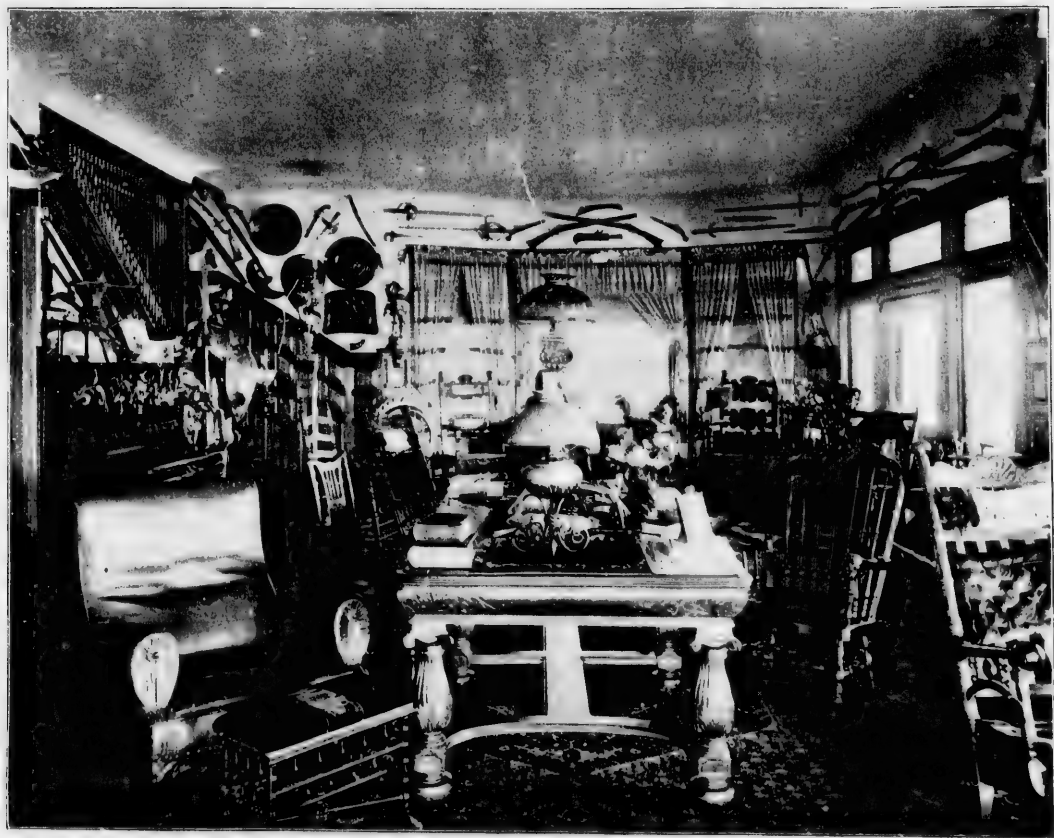


STEAMER TORONTO, RICHELIEU LINE.

The latest addition and best boat of the whole fleet. In fact she has no equal for speed, comfort, elegance or equipment on the St. Lawrence or Lake Ontario. She is too large to run the Rapids; the passengers are transferred to smaller boats before the Rapids are reached.



LILY BAY.



INTERIOR VIEW IN HOPEWELL COTTAGE.



DINING ROOM OF GEO BOLDT'S COTTAGE.



FIDDLER'S ELBOW, CANADIAN CHANNEL.



VILLAGE OF THURSO ON GRINDSTONE ISLAND, 3 MILES FROM GANANOQUE.



A GROUP OF ISLANDS NEAR GANANOQUE.



IN THE GANANCQUE GROUP NEAR BLUE CRANE ISLAND.



MEETING OF AMERICAN CANOE ASSOCIATION AT HAY ISLAND, NEAR GANANOQUE.



VIEW FROM TOWER OF BROWNING'S COTTAGE.



A CAMPING PARTY NEAR ALEXANDRIA BAY.



A VIEW IN LOST CHANNEL.



HOPWELL HALL, W. C. BROWNING, NEW YORK.

CASTLE REST, GEO. M. PULLMAN.



A PICNIC DINNER

ORIENTAL ISLAND.

SWIFT WATER POINT.



"ST. ELMO," N. W. HUNT BROOKLYN, N. Y.



LANDING A BLACK BASS.



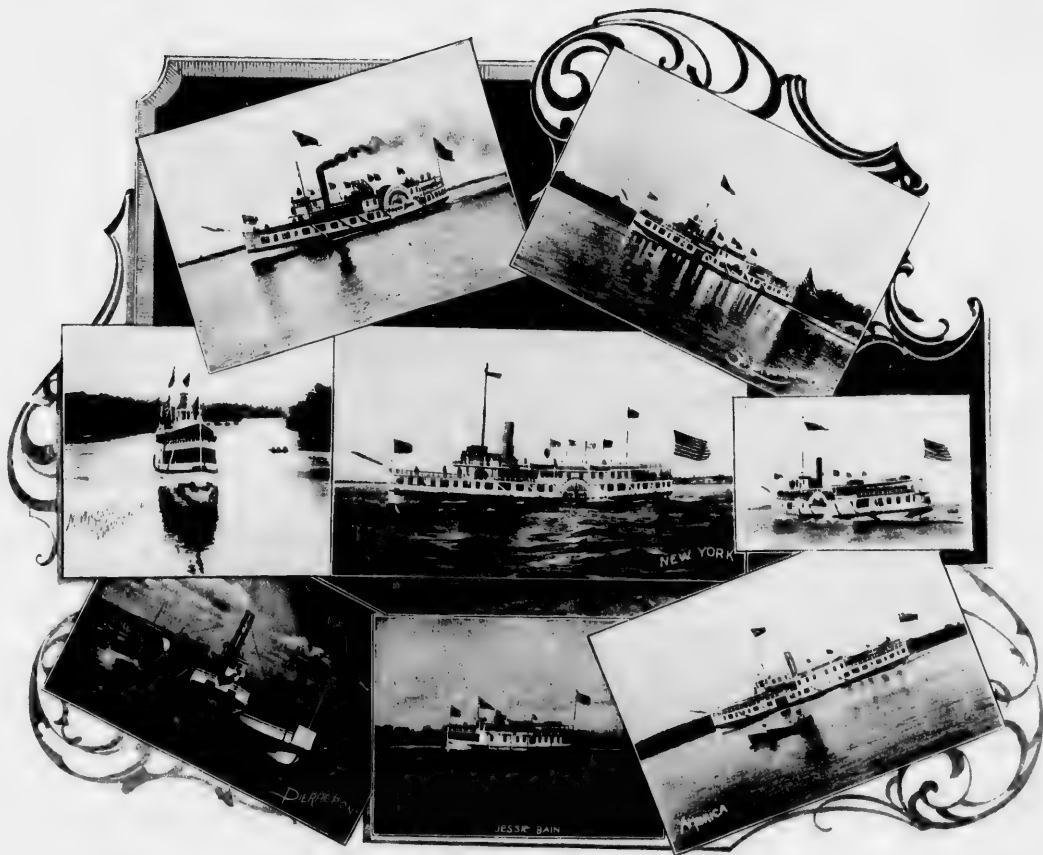
FINLEY'S BAY.



LOOKING EAST FROM SPIKE ISLAND.



FAIR POINT

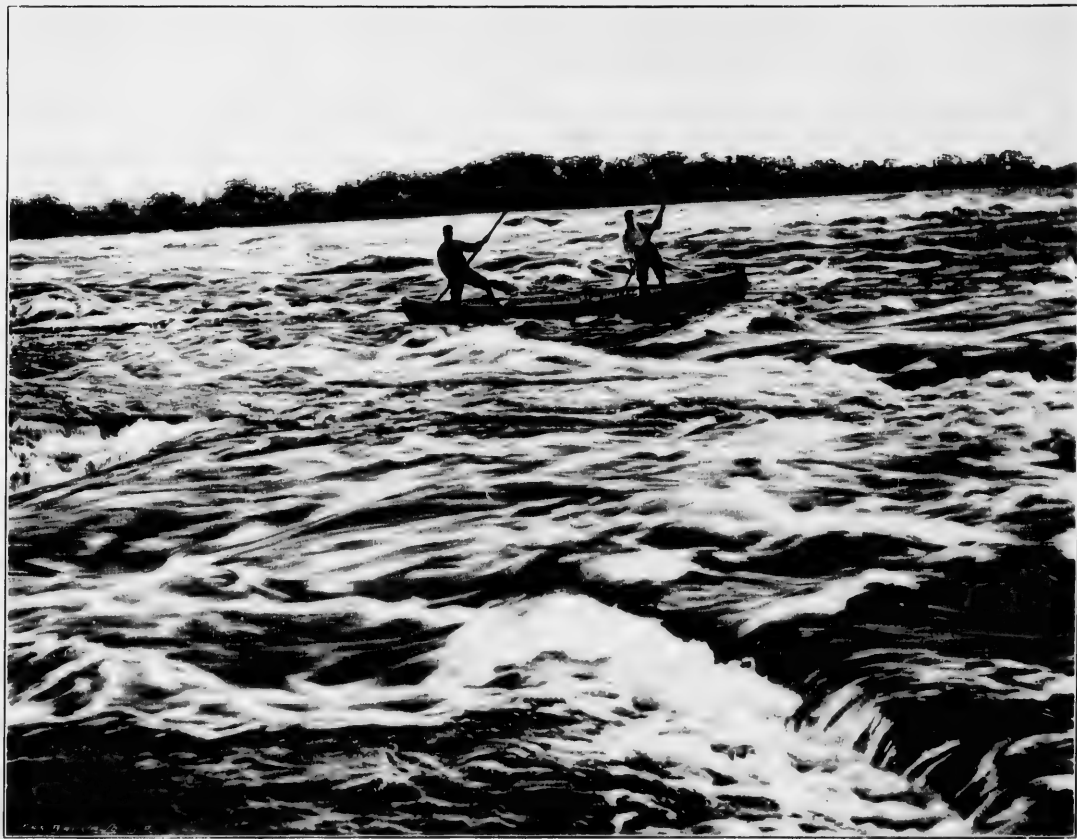


THE THOUSAND ISLAND AND ST. LAWRENCE RIVER STEAMBOAT CO.'S FLEET OF STEAMERS.



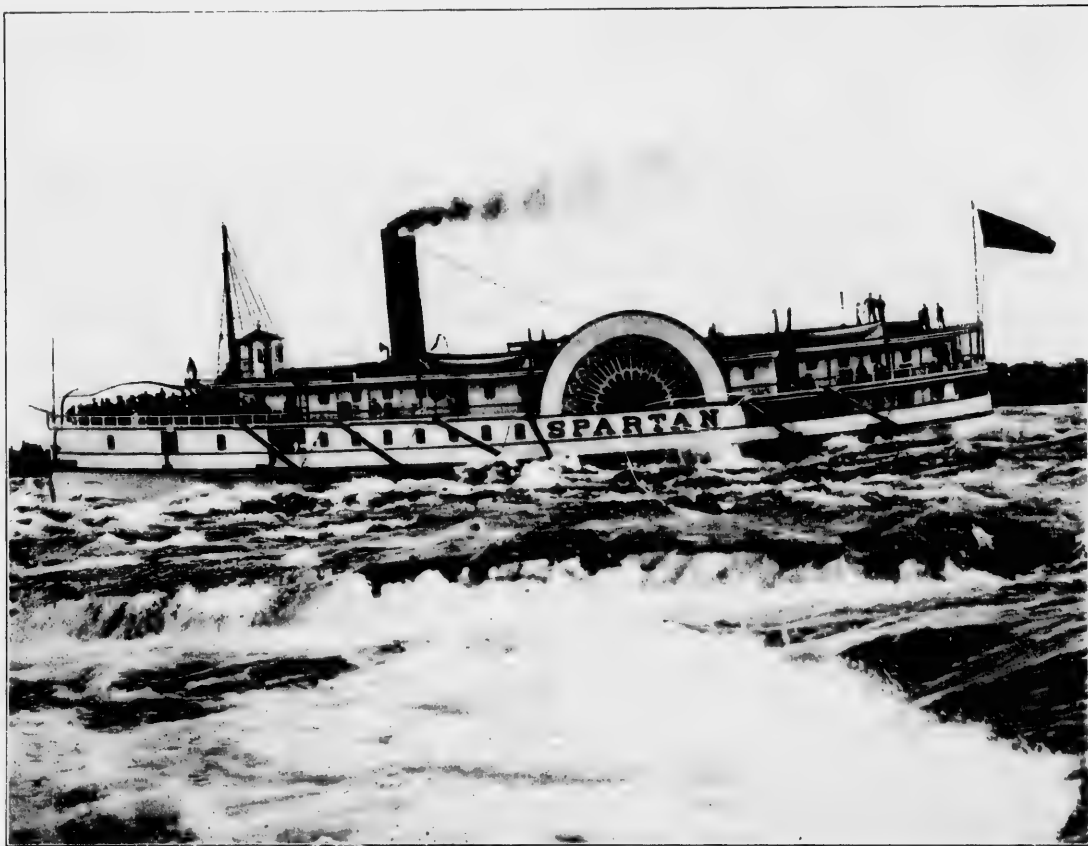
THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY BRIDGE.

A magnificent iron structure built on the cantilever principle and very much resembling the international bridge at Niagara Falls. When the old Victoria Bridge was built across the river at Montreal about forty years ago it was considered the greatest engineering feat of the age and one of the wonders of the World. Now the river is spanned by four iron bridges, viz. at Cornwall, Valleyfield, Lachine and Montreal.



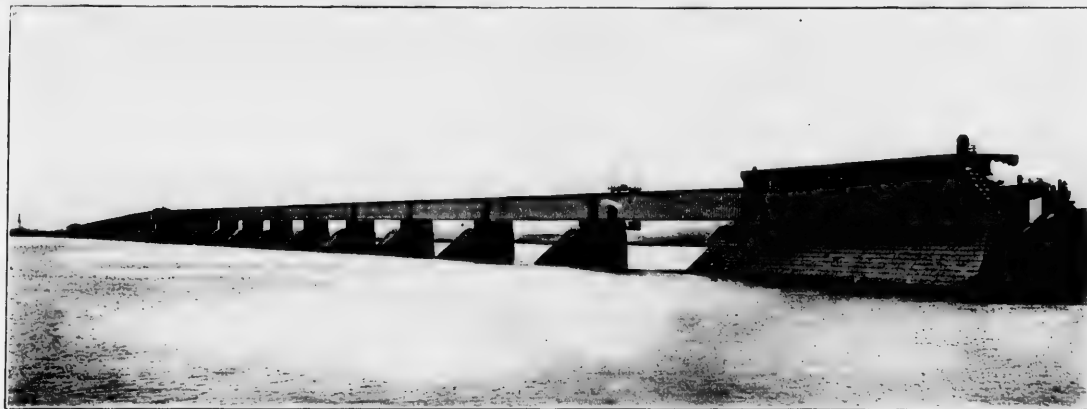
A CANOE GOING UP THE LACHINE RAPIDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PHOTOGRAPHING A STEAMER ON HER WAY DOWN.

This is a very laborious and hazardous undertaking and only accomplished by superior strength and skill. It is with great reluctance the photographer starts out upon this mission, he knows that it means a long day of hard labor and when he gets to his destination he has only a rock large enough to set his camera tripod on upon which to stand and wait the coming of the steamer and when she does come there is no time to loose, she is going at railroad speed. There is no time for a second exposure; if the first is a failure the whole operation must be repeated the next day or some future time.

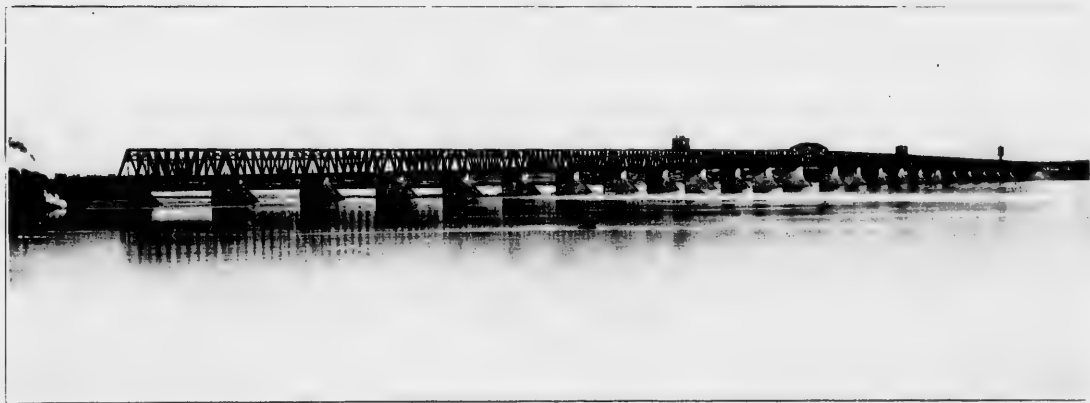


STEAMER SPARTAN IN THE LACHINE RAPIDS.

Soon after passing under the Canada Pacific Railroad Bridge the announcement is made that the steamer is about to enter the Lachine Rapids. The announcement seems to strike every passenger with awe and with abated breath. They rush for the bow deck to witness the passing of the most exciting, most celebrated and difficult of all the Rapids to navigate. They are not kept long in suspense. The swift water together with the engine soon carry the boat beyond every appearance of danger, through the narrow passage between the shelving rocks partly covered by the mighty torrent of water pouring over their partly hidden sides and assisting in keeping the palatial steamer in the center and out of danger. A moment more and we are tranquilly passing under the great Victoria Bridge and rounding up into the historic city of Montreal.



THE OLD VICTORIA TUBULAR BRIDGE OPENED IN THE YEAR 1860.

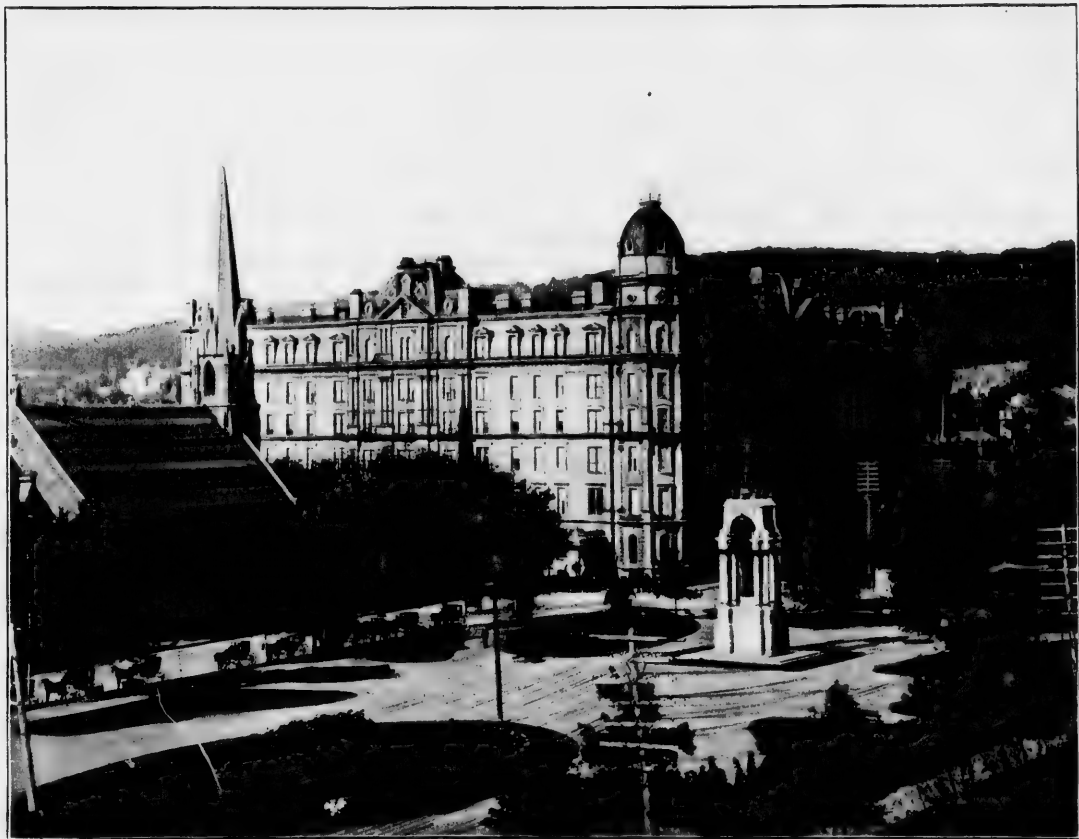


THE NEW VICTORIA JUBILEE BRIDGE. RECONSTRUCTED IN 1899.

The old Victoria Bridge was acknowledged to be one of the greatest feats of engineering skill in the world, and was designed by the celebrated English engineer, Robt. Stephenson. In this view the reader is shown the newly reconstructed bridge with all the old tubular work removed. This was designed and carried out by Mr. Hobson, the famous engineer of the Grand Trunk Railway. The old bridge cost \$6,500,000, and the work of reconstruction of the bridge as it now is, \$1,500,000 more.



HOTEL VICTORIA AND FURKO-RUSSIAN BATHS, QUEBEC.



WINDSOR HOTEL, MONTREAL.

Montreal is noted for its fine hotels and expensive churches. There is not a city of the same population in North America that has as fine churches or anything like the amount of money invested in places of worship. It is also noted as a resort for wealthy tourists, which creates a demand for the best hotel accommodations. The Windsor was recently built in the modern part of the city, at the head of Windsor Street, opposite Dominion Square and at the foot of Mount Royal. There is no better or more convenient location in the city. The streets are broad and clean. The surrounding buildings are of modern architecture, substantial and imposing. Dominion Square, with a monument to Sir John A. McDonald, Premier of Canada, in the center, lies directly in front, laid out in beautiful beds of flowers, tropical plants, gravel walks and easy lounging seats, which make the place very attractive for guests of the Hotel.

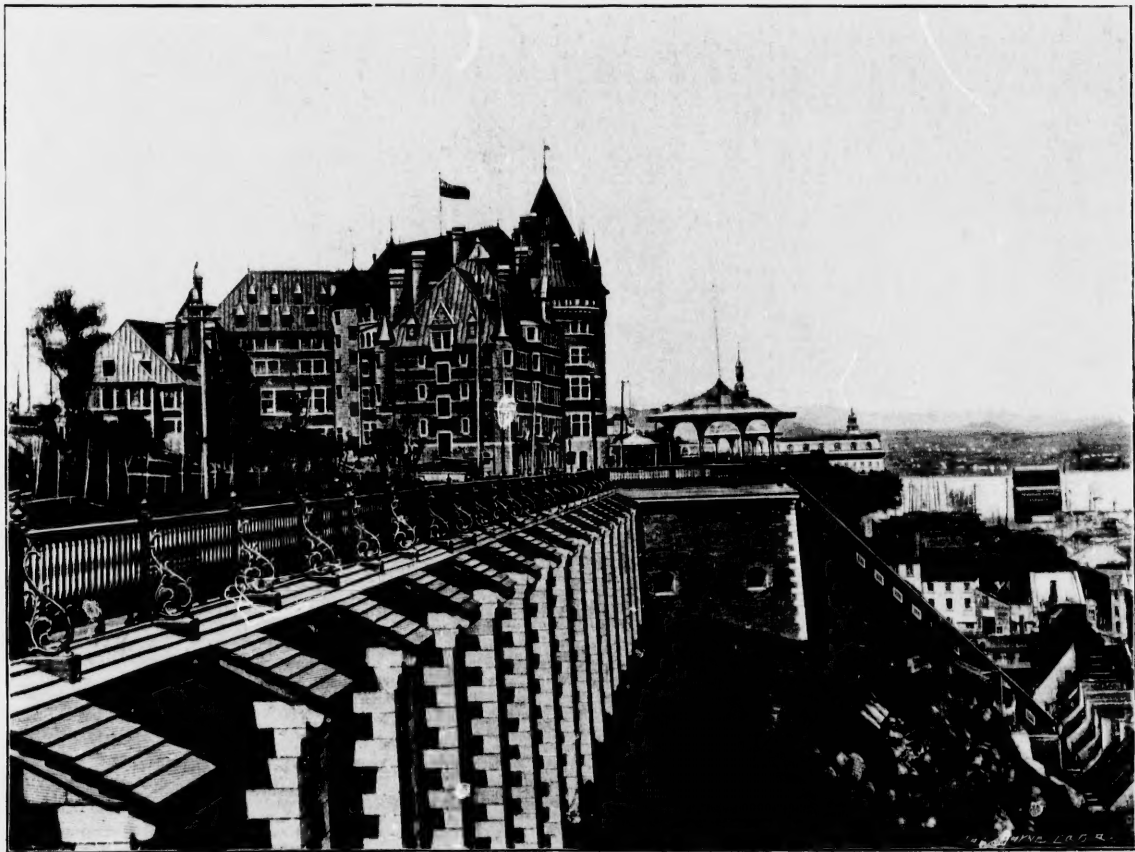


DINING ROOM AND GRAND PROMENADE OF WINDSOR HOTEL.



PLACE VIGER HOTEL AND DEPOT.

Place Viger Hotel, opposite Place Viger Square, Montreal, erected by the Canadian Pacific Railroad, in connection with their eastern depot, where all passengers over that road arrive from and depart for Quebec and the east. The hotel is conveniently located to all steamboat landings, railroads, depots, street cars and the business part of the city; can accommodate 350 guests; rates from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per day. The reputation of the Canadian Pacific Railroad hotels from Quebec to Vancouver is so well known to the traveling public that a further description is unnecessary.



CHATEAU FRONTENAC.

From Below the Terrace, showing the Incline Elevator from Steamboat Landing to Hotel.

